IN THE CLAIMS

1. (currently amended) An information processing apparatus, comprising:

a separating unit operable to separate an input multiplexed stream into a first stream comprised of first stream information and a second stream comprised of stream information other than said first stream information;

a setting unit operable to set a bit rate of an output multiplexed stream;

a controller operable to control coding conditions for reencoding said first stream on the basis of a current bit rate of said second stream and said bit rate of said output multiplexed stream;

a coding unit operable to reencode said first stream under said coding conditions; and

a multiplexing unit operable to multiplex said reencoded first stream and said second stream to produce said output multiplexed stream.

2. (currently amended) An information processing apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein said controller is operable to control said coding conditions by determining a bit rate difference between said bit rate of said output multiplexed stream and said current bit rate of said second stream, ~~and setting~~ said bit rate difference being set as a maximum bit rate ~~assigned to~~of said reencoded first stream ~~at the time of reencoding~~.

3. (currently amended) An information processing apparatus as claimed in claim 2, wherein said coding conditions include at least one of said bit rate difference and a video frame size.

4. (currently amended) An information processing apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein ~~said controller is operable to control~~ said coding conditions are also based on

said first stream information.

5. (currently amended) An information processing apparatus as claimed in claim ~~2~~1, wherein said controller is operable to control said coding conditions so as to reencode said first stream at a fixed bit rate.

6. (currently amended) An information processing apparatus as claimed in claim ~~2~~1, wherein said controller is operable to control said coding conditions so as to reencode said first stream at a variable bit rate.

7. (currently amended) A method for reencoding an input multiplexed stream to provide an output multiplexed stream, said method comprising:

separating said input multiplexed stream into a first stream comprised of first stream information and a second stream comprised of stream information other than said first stream information;

setting a bit rate of said output multiplexed stream;

controlling coding conditions for reencoding said first stream on the basis of a current bit rate of said second stream and said bit rate of said output multiplexed stream;

reencoding said first stream under said coding conditions; and

multiplexing said reencoded first stream and said second stream to produce said output multiplexed stream.

8. (currently amended) A method as claimed in claim 7, wherein said controlling step controls said coding conditions by determining a bit rate difference between said bit rate of said output multiplexed stream and said current bit rate of said second stream, ~~and setting~~ said bit rate difference being set as a maximum bit rate ~~assigned to~~ of said reencoded first stream ~~at the time of reencoding~~.

9. (currently amended) ~~An information processing~~A method as claimed in claim 8, wherein said coding conditions

include at least one of said bit rate difference and a video frame size.

10. (currently amended) ~~An information processing~~A method as claimed in claim ~~8~~7, wherein ~~said controlling step controls~~ said coding conditions are also based on said first stream information.

11. (currently amended) ~~An information processing~~A method as claimed in claim ~~8~~7, wherein said controlling step controls said coding conditions so as to reencode said first stream at a fixed bit rate.

12. (currently amended) ~~An information processing~~A method as claimed in claim ~~8~~7, wherein said controlling step controls said coding conditions so as to reencode said first stream at a variable bit rate.

13. (currently amended) A recording medium recorded with a computer readable program for reencoding an input multiplexed stream to provide an output multiplexed stream, said computer readable program comprising:

separating said input multiplexed stream into a first stream comprised of first stream information and a second stream comprised of stream information other than said first stream information;

setting a bit rate of said output multiplexed stream;

controlling coding conditions for reencoding said first stream on the basis of a current bit rate of said second stream and said bit rate of said output multiplexed stream;

reencoding said first stream under said coding conditions; and

multiplexing said reencoded first stream and said second stream to produce said output multiplexed stream.

14. (currently amended) A recording medium as claimed in claim 13, wherein said controlling step of said program controls said coding conditions by determining a bit rate

difference between said bit rate of said output multiplexed stream and said current bit rate of said second stream, ~~and setting~~ said bit rate difference being set as a maximum bit rate ~~assigned to~~of said reencoded first stream ~~at the time of reencoding~~.

15. (currently amended) A recording medium as claimed in claim 14, wherein said coding conditions include at least one of said bit rate difference and a video frame size.

16. (currently amended) A recording medium as claimed in claim ~~14~~13, wherein ~~said controlling step of said program controls~~ said coding conditions are also based on said first stream information.

17. (currently amended) A recording medium as claimed in claim ~~14~~13, wherein said controlling step of said program controls said coding conditions so as to reencode said first stream at a fixed bit rate.

18. (currently amended) A recording medium as claimed in claim ~~14~~13, wherein said controlling step of said program controls said coding conditions so as to reencode said first stream at a variable bit rate.

19. (new) An information processing apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein said first stream information includes video stream information and said second stream information includes information selected from the group consisting of audio information, still image information, character information, pattern information, and multimedia encoding information.

20. (new) An information processing apparatus as claimed in claim 1, further comprising a further separating unit operable to extract said current bit rate of said second stream from said input multiplexed stream.

21. (new) An information processing apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein said setting unit is operable to set

said bit rate of said output multiplexed stream at a variable bit rate.

22. (new) A method as claimed in claim 7, wherein said first stream information includes video stream information and said second stream information includes information selected from the group consisting of audio information, still image information, character information, pattern information, and multimedia encoding information.

23. (new) A method as claimed in claim 7, further comprising extracting said current bit rate of said second stream from said input multiplexed stream.

24. (new) A method as claimed in claim 7, wherein said setting step sets said bit rate of said output multiplexed stream at a variable bit rate.

25. (new) A recording medium as claimed in claim 13, wherein said first stream information includes video stream information and said second stream information includes information selected from the group consisting of audio information, still image information, character information, pattern information, and multimedia encoding information.

26. (new) A recording medium as claimed in claim 13, wherein said program further comprises extracting said current bit rate of said second stream from said input multiplexed stream.

27. (new) A recording medium as claimed in claim 13, wherein said setting step of said program sets said bit rate of said output multiplexed stream at a variable bit rate.